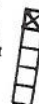




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New Mexico

The Great Seal of New Mexico



New Mexico's Great Seal has its origins in the 1851 formation of the Territory of New Mexico. The territorial seal featured an American eagle, and the words "Great Seal of the Territory NM". By the early 1860's, the Territory of New Mexico had adopted a seal that showed the wings of the American eagle protectively stretching out over a smaller Mexican eagle. The motto "Crescit Eundo", or "It grows as it goes", was added in 1882, and displays on a banner below the eagles.

When New Mexico gained statehood in 1912, the seal was amended to read "Great Seal of the State of New Mexico", and the date of its statehood, 1912, was added to the bottom arc of the seal.

State [Statute](#).

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Keeper of the Great Seal of New Mexico



New Mexico's first seal was designed shortly after the organization of the Territorial Government, in 1851. The original seal has long since disappeared, possibly as part of the artifacts placed into the cornerstone of the Soldiers Monument in the Santa Fe Plaza. Imprints of the original seal show it consisted of the American Eagle, clutching an olive branch in one talon, and three arrows in the other. Along the outside rim was the inscription "Great Seal of the Territory NM."

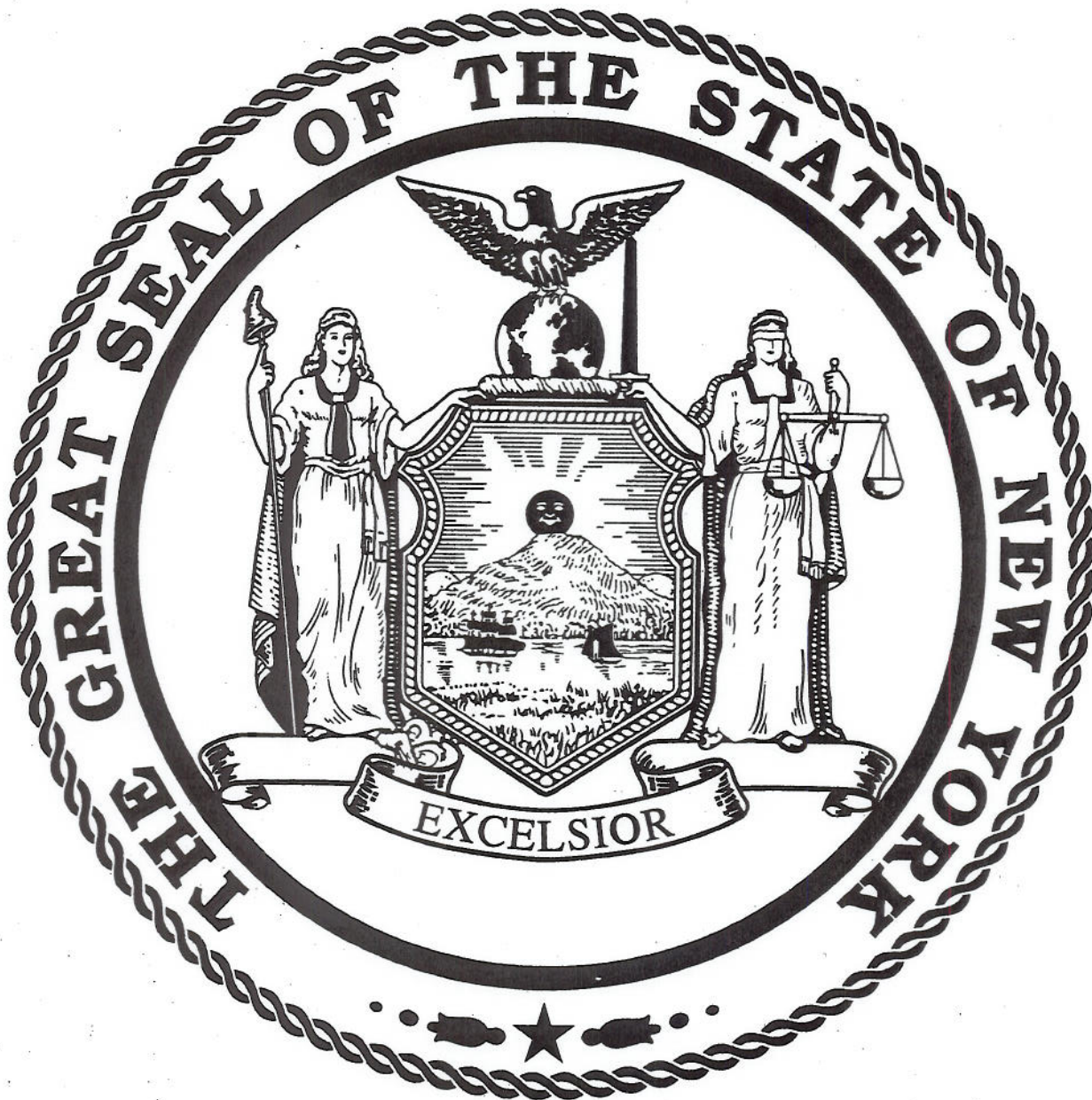
In the early 1860's an unknown official adopted a new seal, using a design similar to today's Great Seal. It featured the American Bald Eagle, its outstretched wings shielding a smaller Mexican Eagle, symbolizing the change of sovereignty from Mexico to the United States in 1846. The smaller Mexican Brown, or Harpy, Eagle grasped a snake in its beak and cactus in its talons, portraying an ancient Aztec myth. The outside rim of the seal contained the words "Territory of New Mexico," with the date of 1850 along the bottom in Roman numerals (MDCCCL).

It is not clear when the Latin phrase "Crescit Eundo" was added to the seal, but in 1882, Territorial Secretary W.G. Ritch embellished the earlier design with the phrase, which translates as "it grows as it goes". This version of the seal was adopted as New Mexico's "official seal and coat of arms" by the Territorial Legislature in 1887.

When New Mexico became a state in 1912, the Legislature named a Commission for the purpose of designing a State Seal. In the meantime, the Legislature authorized interim use of the Territorial Seal with the words "Great Seal of the State of New Mexico" substituted. In June 1913, the Commission, which consisted of Governor William C. McDonald, Attorney General Frank W. Clancy, Chief Justice Clarence J. Roberts, and Secretary of State Antonio Lucero, filed its report adopting the general design of the Territorial Seal, substituting only the date 1912 for the Roman numerals. That seal is still in use today as the official seal of New Mexico.



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New York

The Great Seal of New York



The Great Seal of New York was first established in 1777 to act as the official seal of the state. In 1778 a second form was completed that included a full coat of arms. In 1882 a final law was adopted describing the seal as designed in 1778.

New York's seal features the state's official Coat of Arms encircled by the words "The Great Seal of the State of New York". The Coat of Arms is crested by an American eagle, wings outstretched. The eagle stands

upon a globe, showing the North Atlantic Ocean. The female figures of Liberty and Justice stand upon a scroll that proclaims "Excelsior", or "Ever Upward". Liberty and Justice frame a scene of two ships on a river, with the sun gloriously rising above the mountains.

State [Statute](#).

< NM



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THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK **History of the Great Seal

The following description of the Coat of Arms is provided for those who may be unfamiliar with heraldic terms:

Shield. A blue, unclouded sky with the golden sun and its rays centered behind a range of three mountains, the middle one the highest; below, a ship and sloop under sail, facing each other and about to meet on a river, bordered by a grassy shore fringed with shrubs, all in natural colors.

Crest (above the shield). On a wreath of blue and gold, an American eagle in its natural colors, facing toward the right (considered a good omen) above a two-thirds globe drawing of Earth, showing the north Atlantic Ocean with outlines of its shores.

Supporters (the two figures on the outside of the shield) appear to be joined with the shield as a unit formed by the extension of the scroll:

On the right side of the shield. The figure of Liberty in natural colors, her unbound hair decorated with pearls. She is clothed in blue with red sandals, a loose robe of red hanging down from her shoulders to her feet. In her right hand, she holds a staff topped with a gold Phrygian cap; her left arm is bent at the elbow, the hand supporting the shield at its top right. A royal crown lies at her left foot, thrown down to illustrate the lessening of power of the English monarchy.

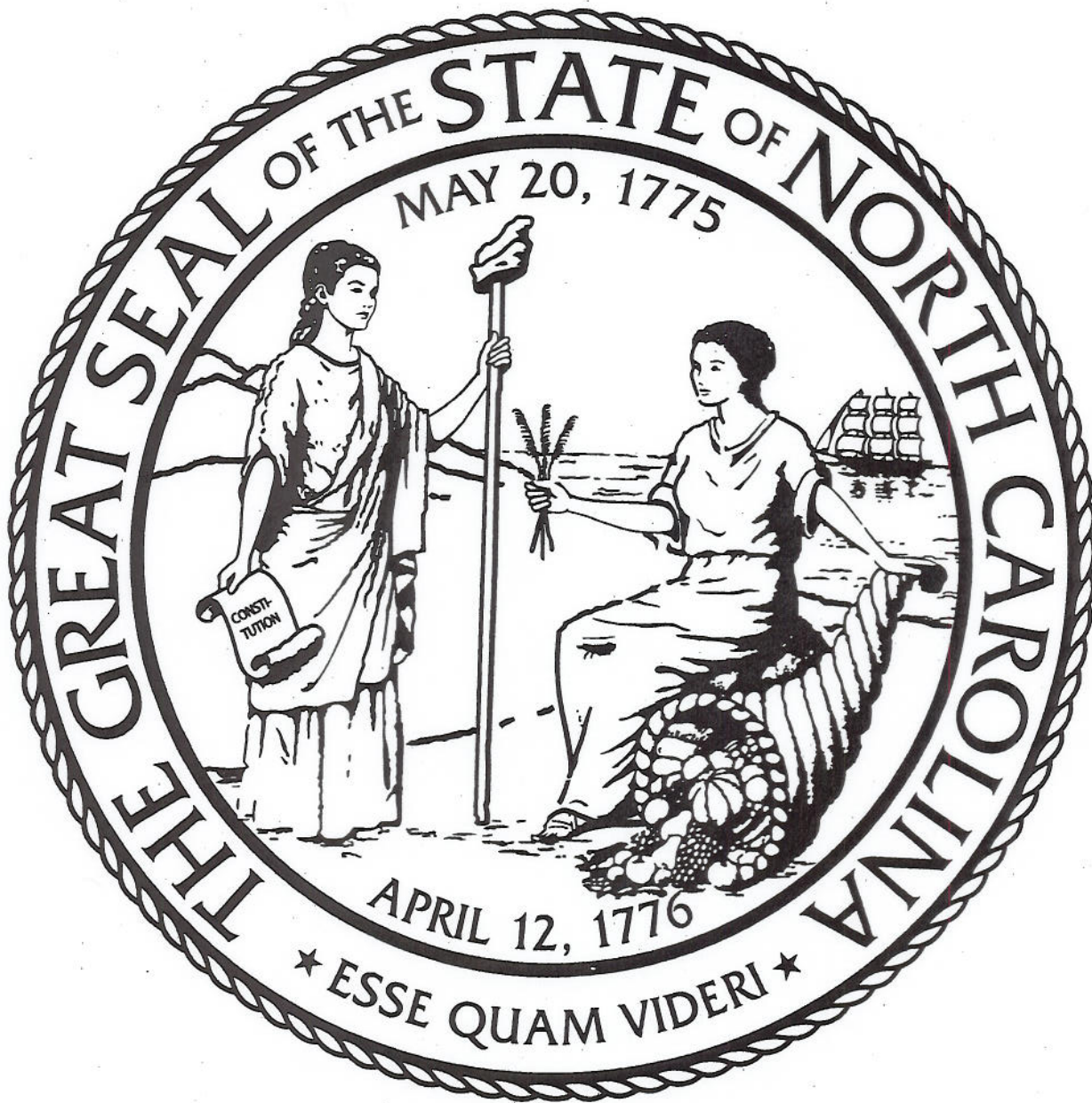
On the left side of the shield. The figure of Justice in natural colors, her unbound hair decorated with pearls. She is clothed in gold with a blue belt fringed in red, wearing sandals and a robe as Liberty and bound about the eyes with a narrow band of cloth. In her right hand she holds a gold handled sword, held erect, and resting on the top left point of the shield; left arm is also bent at the elbow, holding scales in front of herself.

Motto. On a silver scroll below the shield, in black type, the word "Excelsior" (Ever

Upward).

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The State Seal of North Carolina

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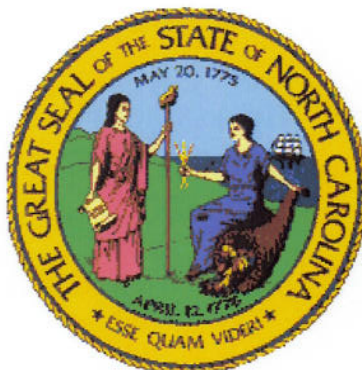
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North Carolina has had a seal for use on official documents since the days of the Lords Proprietors. Shortly after they were issued their charter in 1663, the Lords Proprietors adopted a seal which was used on all their official papers for Carolina. This seal featured the coats-of-arms of the eight Lords on one side.

About 1665 the government of Albemarle was organized and it adopted, with some modifications, the 1663 seal. It was first used for the government of the county of Albemarle, and then became the seal of the Province of North Carolina. This seal was used from 1665 to 1730.

When North Carolina was purchased by the Crown in 1729, the old "Albemarle" seal was no longer appropriate so the king ordered that a new seal be prepared. This seal of the Province of North Carolina was used from 1730 to 1767. At a council held in New Bern in 1767, Governor Tryon introduced a new seal to be used in sealing all patents and grants of lands and all public instruments passed in the king's name for service within the province.

In 1776, an ordinance was passed by the Provincial Congress at Halifax appointing three commissioners to procure a Great Seal for the State of North Carolina, but no record of a report being made by them was found. In 1778, a bill was introduced in the general assembly held in New Bern that "William Tisdale, Esq., be and he is hereby appointed to cut and engrave a Seal, under the Direction of his Excellency the Governor, for the use of the State...."

When the government of the State of North Carolina was organized, the constitution adopted at Halifax in 1776 provided, "That there shall be a Seal of this State; which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him as occasion may require; and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina, be affixed to all grants and commissions."

In 1792, the general assembly meeting again in New Bern authorized that a new seal "be prepared with only one side...." This was a major change, since all other seals had been two-sided. Other major changes were made in 1835, 1893, and 1971. The most recent alteration was made in 1983 when the April 12, 1776 date was added at the bottom to commemorate the Halifax Resolves.

The current seal features two women, Plenty and Liberty. Liberty is the lady on the left holding a scroll in her right hand. On the scroll is written the word "Constitution." In her left hand, Liberty holds a pole with the cap of liberty on top of it. Plenty sits on the right with three heads of wheat in her right hand. From her left hand to her feet is a cornucopia, or horn of plenty, containing fruits and vegetables. There is a three-masted ship on a body of water in the background and mountains running left to right to the middle of the seal.

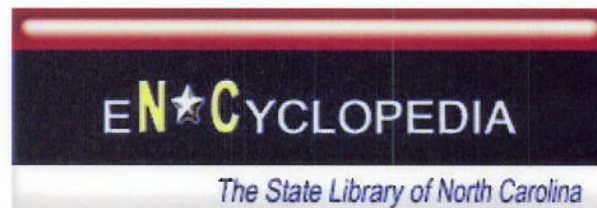
The date April 12, 1776 is inscribed just below the women. This is the date of the Halifax Resolves, the document which gave North Carolina's delegates to the Continental Congress the authority to vote for independence. Within the inner circle above the heads of the women is the date May 20, 1775. This is thought to be the date of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. This document was a bold statement in favor of independence from England for the colonies. Around the upper perimeter of the seal is the inscription, "The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina." The state motto, "Esse Quam Videri," which is Latin meaning "To be rather than to seem," is at the bottom of the seal in this outer circle.

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THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A seal for important documents was used before the government was ever implemented in North Carolina. During the colonial period North Carolina used successively four different seals. Since independence six seals have been used.

Shortly after King Charles II issued the Charter of 1663 to the Lords Proprietors, a seal was adopted to use in conjunction with their newly acquired domains in America. No official description has been found of the seal but it can be seen in the British Public Record Office in London. The seal had two sides and was three and three-eighths inches in diameter. The impression was made by bonding two wax cakes together with tape before being impressed. The finished impression was about one-fourth inch thick. This seal was used on all official papers of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, embracing both North Carolina and South Carolina.

When the Government of Albemarle was organized in 1665, it adopted for a seal the reverse side of the seal of the Lords Proprietors. Between the coat-of-arms, the word A-L-BE-M-A-R-L-E was fixed in capitals, beginning with the letter "A" between the Craven arms and those of Lord John Berkeley.

The Albemarle seal was small, only one and seven-sixteenths inches in diameter and had only one face. The seal was usually impressed on red wax, but was occasionally seen imprinted on a wafer stuck to the instrument with soft wax. The government for Albemarle County was the first to use the seal; however, as the colony grew, it became the seal of the entire Province of North Carolina. It continued in use until just after the purchase of North Carolina by the crown. During the troublesome times of the Cary Rebellion, the Albemarle seal was not used. Instead, Cary used his family arms as seal for official papers. William Glover used his private seal during his presidency as well.

When North Carolina became a Royal Colony in 1729, the old "Albemarle" seal was no longer applicable. On February 3, 1730, the Board of Trade recommended that the king order a public seal for the Province of North Carolina. Later that same month, the king approved the recommendations and ordered that a new seal be prepared for the Governor of North Carolina. On March 25, the Board of Trade presented the king with a draft of the proposed seal for his consideration. The king approved the proposed new seal on April 10 with one minor change - "Georgius Secundus" was to be substituted for the original "Geo.II." The chief engraver of seals, Rollos, was ordered to "engrave a silver Seal according to said draught"

The arrival of the new seal in North Carolina was delayed, so when the council met in Edenton on March 30, 1731, the old seal of the Colony was ordered to be used till the new seal arrived. The new seal arrived in late April and the messenger fetching the seal from Cape Fear was paid ten pounds for his journey. The impression of the new seal was made by placing two cakes or layers of wax together, and then interlacing ribbon or tape with the attached seal between the wax cakes. It was customary to put a piece of paper on the outside of three cakes before they were impressed. The complete seal was four and three-eighths inches in diameter and from one-half to five-eighths inches thick and weighed about five

and one-half ounces.

At a meeting of the council held in New Bern on December 14, 1767, Governor Tryon produced a new Great Seal of the province with his Majesty's Royal Warrant bearing date at the Court of St. James the 9th day of July, 1767. The old seal was returned to his Majesty's Council office at Whitehall in England. Accompanying the warrant was a description of the new seal with instruction that the seal was to be used in sealing all patents and grants of lands and all public instruments passed in the king's name for service within the province. It was four inches in diameter, one-half to five-eighths inches thick, and weighed four and one-half ounces.

Sometimes a smaller seal than the Great Seal was used on commissions and grants, such as a small heart-shaped seal, or a seal in the shape of an ellipse. These impressions were evidently made by putting the wax far enough under the edge of the Great Seal to take the impression of the crown. The royal governors also used their private seals on commissions and grants.

Lord Granville, after the sale of the colony by the Lords Proprietors, retained his right to issue land grants. He used his private seal on the grants he issued. The last reference found to the colonial seal is in a letter from Governor Martin to the Earl of Hillsborough in November, 1771, in which he recounts the broken condition of the seal. He states the seal had been repaired and though "awkwardly mended . . . [it was] in such manner as to answer all purposes."

Following independence Section XVII of the new constitution adopted at Halifax on December 18, 1776, provided "That there shall be a Seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him as occasion may require; and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina, and be affixed to all grants and commissions." When a new constitution was adopted in 1868, Article III, Section 16 provided for ". . . a seal of the State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him, as occasion may require, and shall be called 'The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina.' It also provided for the secretary of state to countersign with the governor. When the people of North Carolina ratified the current constitution in 1970, Article III, Section 10 contained provisions for "The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina." However, the wording which authorized the secretary of state to countersign documents was removed.

On December 22, 1776, the Provincial Congress at Halifax appointed William Hooper, Joseph Hewes and Thomas Burke as commissioners to procure a seal for the State; however, there is no record that a report was ever made by this commission. The Congress provided for the governor to use his "private seal at arms" until the Great Seal for the state was procured. A bill calling for the procurement of a Great Seal was introduced in the lower house of the General Assembly on April 28, 1778. The bill became law on May 2. The legislation provided that William Tisdale, Esq., be appointed to cut and engrave a seal for the State. On Sunday, November 7, 1779, the senate granted Tisdale £150 to make the seal. The seal procured under this act was used until 1794. The actual size of the seal was three inches in diameter and one-fourth inch thick. It was made by putting two cakes of wax together with paper wafers on the outside and pressing them between the dies, thus forming the obverse and reverse sides of the seal.

An official description of this seal cannot be found, but many of the seals still in existence are in an almost perfect state of preservation.

In January, 1792, the General Assembly authorized a new State seal, requiring that it be prepared with only one side. Colonel Abisha Thomas, an agent of North Carolina commissioned by Governor Martin, was in Philadelphia to settle the State's Revolutionary claims against the Federal Government. Martin sent a design to Colonel Thomas for a new seal for the State; however, after suggestions by Dr. Hugh

Williamson and Senator Samuel Johnston, this sketch was disregarded and a new one submitted. This new sketch, with some modification, was finally accepted by Governor Spaight, and Colonel Thomas had the seal made accordingly.

The seal press for the old seal must have been very large and unwieldy probably due to the two-sided nature and large diameter of the seal. Governor Richard Dobbs Spaight in a letter to Colonel Abisha Thomas in February, 1793, wrote: "Let the screws by which the impression is to be made be as portable as possible so as it may be adapted to our present itinerant government. The one now in use by which the Great Seal is at present made is so large and unwieldy as to be carried only in a cart or wagon and of course has become stationary at the Secretary's office which makes it very convenient." The seal was cut some time during the summer of 1793, and Colonel Thomas brought it home with him in time for the meeting of the legislature in November, 1793, at which session it was "approved." The screw to the seal was two and one half inches in diameter and was used until around 1835.

In the winter of 1834-35 the legislature enacted legislation authorizing the governor to procure a new seal. The preamble to the act stated that the old seal had been used since the first day of March, 1793. A new seal which was very similar to its predecessor was adopted in 1835 and continued in use until 1893. In 1868 the legislature authorized the governor to procure a new replacement Seal and required him to do so whenever the old one was lost or so worn or defaced that it was unfit for use.

In 1883, Colonel S. MCD. Tate introduced a bill that did not provide that a new seal be procured but described in more detail what the seal should be like. In 1893, Jacob Battle introduced a bill that made no change in the seal except to add at the foot of the coat-of-arms of the state as part thereof the motto *Esse Quam Videri* and to provide that the words "May 20, 1775," be inscribed at the top of the coat-of-arms.

By the late 19th and early 20th century, the ship that appeared in the background of the early seals had disappeared. The North Carolina Mountains were the only backdrop on the seal, while formerly both the mountains and the ship had been depicted.

This brief history of the seals of our State illustrates the great variety and liberty that was taken in the design of the official State seal. The 1971 General Assembly, in an effort to "provide a standard for the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina," passed the following Act amending the General Statutes provision relative to the State Seal:

The Governor shall procure for the State a Seal, which shall be called the great seal of the State of North Carolina, and shall be two and one-quarter inches in diameter, and its design shall be a representation of the figures of Liberty and Plenty, looking toward each other, but not more than half-fronting each other and otherwise disposed as follows: Liberty, the first figure, standing, her pole with cap on it in her left hand and a scroll with the word "Constitution" inscribed thereon in her right hand. Plenty, the second figure, sitting down, her right arm half extended toward Liberty, three heads of grain in her right hand, and in her left, the small end of her horn, the mouth of which is resting at her feet, and the contents of the horn rolling out.

The background on the seal shall contain a depiction of mountains running from left to right to the middle of the seal. A

side view of a three-masted ship shall be located on the ocean and to the right of Plenty. The date "May 20, 1775" shall appear within the seal and across the top of the seal and the words "esse quam videri" shall appear at the bottom around the perimeter. No other words, figures or other embellishments shall appear on the seal.

It shall be the duty of the Governor to file in the office of the Secretary of State an impression of the great seal, certified to under his hand and attested to by the Secretary of State, which impression so certified the Secretary of State shall carefully preserve among the records of this Office.

The late Jullian R. Allsbrook, who served in the North Carolina Senate for many years, felt that the adoption date of the Halifax Resolves ought to be commemorated on the State seal as it was already on the State flag. This was to "serve as a constant reminder of the people of this state's commitment to liberty." Legislation adding the date "April 12, 1776" to the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina was ratified May 2, 1983, with an effective date of January 1, 1984. Chapter 257 of the Session Laws of North Carolina included provisions that would not invalidate any Great Seal of the State of North Carolina in use or on display. Instead replacement could occur as the need arose.

The preceding information was adapted from:

The History of the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina, by J. Bryan Grimes (revised by D.L. Corbitt), published by the State Department of Archives and History, 1966.


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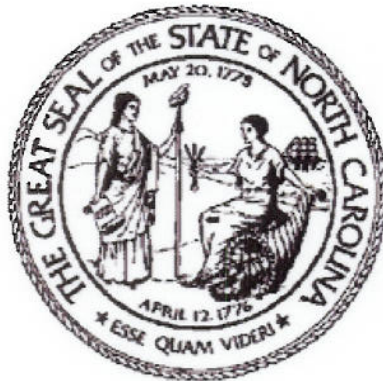
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North Carolina

The Great Seal of North Carolina



In 1971, North Carolina's General Assembly resolved to standardize the design of the state's seal. Prior to this resolution, the seal took on many different design variations. The ship which appears in the background of the present seal, for example, had totally disappeared from some previous seals. Mottos and dates came and went, and the images changed with the artists and office holders. So, the General Assembly passed this resolution in 1971:

"The Governor shall procure of the State a Seal, which shall be called the great seal of the State of North Carolina, and shall be two and one-quarter inches in diameter, and its design shall be a representation of the figures of Liberty and Plenty, looking toward each other, but not more than half-fronting each other and other-wise disposed as follows: Liberty, the first figure, standing, her pole with cap on it in her left hand and a scroll with the word "Constitution" inscribed thereon in her right hand. Plenty, the second figure, sitting down, her right arm half extended toward Liberty, three heads of grain in her right hand, and in her left, the small end of her horn, the mouth of which is resting at her feet, and the contents of the horn rolling out.

The background on the seal shall contain a depiction of mountains running from left to right to the middle of the seal. A side view of a three-masted ship shall be located on the ocean and to the right of Plenty. The date "May 20, 1775" shall appear within the seal and across the top of the seal and the words "esse quam videri" shall appear at the bottom around the perimeter. No other words, figures or other embellishments shall appear on the seal."

It shall be the duty of the Governor to file in the office of the Secretary of State an impression of the great seal, certified to under his hand and attested to by the Secretary of State, which impression so certified the Secretary of State shall carefully preserve among the records of this Office.

But even this standard was not the final word on the subject. In 1983, the state ratified another change that had been proposed by former Senator Jullian R. Allsbrook. Since the state flag carried the date of the adoption of the

Halifax Resolves, Allsbrook felt that the State Seal should do likewise to serve as a reminder of the state's commitment to liberty. Thus, the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina was modified to show the date of the Resolves, April 12, 1776.

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is as clear as
it comes."



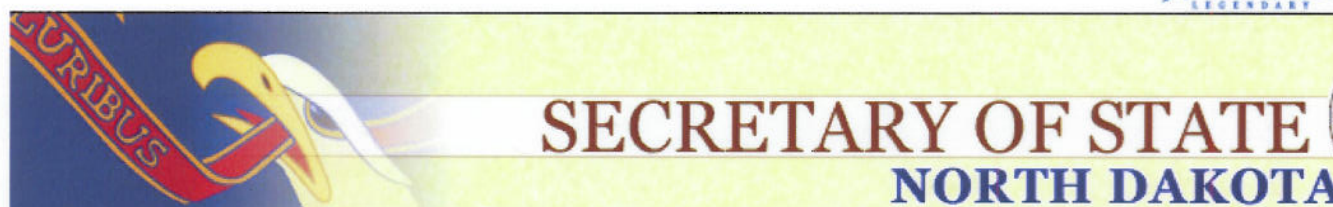
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Great Seal of the State of North Dakota



From the time of its ratification in 1889, North Dakota's Constitution has always contained the same detailed description of the state's Great Seal. Now found in Section two of Article XI (titled General Provisions), the description of the Great Seal was initially located in Section two of Article XVII (titled Miscellaneous) in the 1889 version of the Constitution.

Some of the wording contained in the

Constitution's description is the same as that used for the territorial seal approved on January 3, 1863, by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota.

The description reads as follows: A tree in the open field, the trunk of which is surrounded by three bundles of wheat; on the right a plow, anvil and sledge; on the left, a bow crossed with three arrows, and an Indian on horseback pursuing a buffalo toward the setting sun; the foliage of the tree arched by a half circle of forty-two stars, surrounded by the motto "Liberty and Union Now and Forever, One and Inseparable"; the words "Great Seal" at the top; the words "State of North Dakota" at the bottom; "October 1st" on the left and "1889" on the right.

The October 1 date was the day the voters approved the state's constitution by a vote of 27,441 (77%) to 8,107 (23%). Research has failed to reveal the reasons the selected symbols were chosen. As a result, various theories have been advanced over the years. For example, the tree has been identified as an American Elm. However, the American Elm was not adopted as the state's official tree until 1947. The three bundles of wheat could represent the three branches of government - executive, legislative, and judicial. The plow, anvil, and the sledge may make reference to the agricultural background of the state and to its strong work ethic. The bow and arrows, buffalo, the Indian on horseback, and the setting sun could be reminders of an integral segment in the history of the northern plains. The motto is a quote by Daniel Webster.

Although North Dakota became the thirty-ninth state, the seal has forty-two stars across the top. Since it was not known at statehood as to which "number" North Dakota would be, it's assumed the stars represent the forty-two states which would comprise the Union by the end of 1889.

While the content has generally been true to the description, the design of the Great Seal itself has varied through the years. The first known design is found in the 1887 Blue Book. There were designs with slight variations from its predecessor in at least 1899, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1919, 1926, 1929, 1973, and 1987. In the spring of 1987, then Secretary of State Ben Meier commissioned Dickinson artist Lili Stewart-Wheeler to create a new design. That design was approved on September 17, 1987, and is the same one used today.

Since statehood, the Secretary of State has been charged with the custody of the Great Seal. The first legislation related to the Great Seal was passed by the First Legislative Assembly in 1890 (Senate Bill 23). Nevertheless, relatively few changes in the law were made through the years. A major change was made in 1975 which prohibited the use of the Great Seal in advertising and for commercial purposes. An exception was passed in 1985 (effective until June 30, 1991) allowing the use of the Great Seal for approved commercial purposes as a part of North Dakota's Centennial Celebration. Otherwise, for many years the use of the Great Seal was largely dependent on numerous opinions issued by the Attorney General.

To more clearly define the acceptable uses of the Great Seal and to end the dependency on the opinions, S.B. 2448 was passed by the 1995 Legislative Assembly. The bill gave the Secretary of State greater flexibility and authority in carrying out the custodial responsibilities related to the Great Seal. In addition, it specifically prohibited the use of the Great Seal for political purposes. The existing law was also amended to allow the Great Seal to be reproduced, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, on items offered for sale as gifts and souvenirs by the State Historical Society and the Parks and Recreation Department. The 1997 Legislative Assembly authorized the Great Seal on business cards for state employees. (S.B.No. 2150)

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North Dakota

The Great Seal of North Dakota



The Great Seal of the State of North Dakota is an attractive blend of images, symbols, and text. Prairies, mountains, agriculture, and the state's Indian heritage are all depicted on the official seal. In the center of the seal stands a single oak tree in the middle of wide open territory. A buffalo, followed by an Indian on horseback, moves across the land. Bundles of harvested wheat and a farmer's plow stand near the oak tree. A bow and arrows, and a sledge and anvil complete the scene.

The motto "Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable" arcs over forty-two stars, symbolizing North Dakota's union with the other states. Around the perimeter of the seal are the date that North Dakota gained statehood, October 1st, 1889, and the words "Great Seal, State of North Dakota".

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The Great Seal of Ohio



The Great Seal of the State of Ohio has undergone several design changes throughout its history. The rotunda of the Statehouse, for example, has a magnificent skylight with a handpainted version of a Seal that was designed in 1847. This version is similar to Ohio's present seal, but features a canal boat that is totally missing from today's seal.

In an attempt to reign in the design of the seal, the Legislature officially

adopted Ohio's modern version in 1967, modifying it in 1996. The Scioto River flows across the center of the seal, separating cultivated fields from Mount Logan. Thirteen rays of a rising sun radiate over the mountain, symbolizing the 13 original colonies. In the foreground stands a sheaf of wheat, representing agriculture and bounty. Mimicking the sheaf of wheat is a bundle of 17 arrows, symbolizing Ohio as the 17th state to join the Union.

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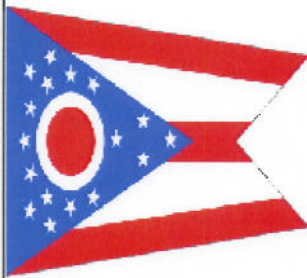


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State of Ohio: Our County Flag, Our State Flag, Our Seal and the State Bird



The Ohio flag, unique in shape but uncomplicated in design, is filled with symbolism. The union of the flag, a large blue triangle is populated with seventeen white stars. Those that are grouped around the circle represent the 13 original colonies. The 4 stars found at the apex of the triangle combine with the stars of the 13 original colonies to total seventeen. Ohio was the 17th state to enter the union. Three red and two white horizontal stripes and the blue field copy the red, white and blue of the Stars and Stripes. The blue field represents Ohio's hills and valleys. The stripes represent the roads and waterways of the state. The white circle with a red center forms the "O" in Ohio and can also be related to the state's nickname, the "Buckeye State".



The Great Seal of the State of Ohio has undergone several design changes throughout its history. The rotunda of the state house, for example, has a magnificent skylight with a hand painted version of a Seal that was designed in 1847. This version is similar to Ohio's present seal, but features a canal boat that is totally missing from today's seal. In an attempt to reign in the design of the seal, the Legislature officially adopted Ohio's modern version in 1967, modifying it in 1996. The Scioto River flows across the center of the seal, separating cultivated fields from Mount Logan. Thirteen rays of a rising sun radiate over the mountain, symbolizing the 13

	<p>original colonies. In the foreground stands a sheaf of wheat, representing agriculture and bounty. Mimicking the sheaf of wheat is a bundle of 17 arrows, symbolizing Ohio as the 17th state to join the Union.</p>
	<p>THE OHIO STATE BIRD The red bird, commonly known as the "cardinal," is the official bird for the state of Ohio.</p>
	<p>LAWRENCE COUNTY FLAG/SEAL The three symbols found on the Lawrence County Flag/Seal, designed by the Lawrence County Genealogical Society, were selected because of the significance of the originals in the developing history of the county of Lawrence</p>

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